

L. P. Swanson M.S.
2 Library

A L S A G E R U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

R E P O R T
ON THE
HEALTH AND SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES
OF THE DISTRICT
FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31st. December,
1960.

- o o -



=====

To the Chairman and Members of the Alsager Urban District Council,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District for the year 1960.

There has been a considerable increase in the estimated population which has grown by 370 and now stands at 7760, this despite the fact that there was a fall in the number of births. This rise in population is no surprise when one takes into account the amount of private development that is occurring in the Urban District.

The number of Council Houses built in Alsager since the war is 480 and there are 12 bungalows at present in the course of erection. There have also been 711 houses built by private enterprise with 59 at present under construction. This development as stated in my report of last year, is because Alsager is an attractive place to live in. But it brings with it problems which have to be solved by the Council. The main one is the provision of adequate sewerage and sewage disposal facilities. This problem is being dealt with by a Consultant employed by the Council and it is hoped that in the near future a scheme will be ready for presentation.

There was no undue prevalence of infectious disease during the year but it is disturbing to record that there are still cases of Whooping Cough being notified. This disease like Diphtheria and Poliomyelitis can be eliminated from the community if parents will see that their children are adequately immunised and vaccinated as encouraged to do so by the doctors and nurses. It was reported last year of the use of a Measles Vaccine which had been prepared as a result of the isolation of the Measles virus by Enders in the U.S.A. He incidentally was the man who isolated the Poliomyelitis virus. The vaccine in about half the cases produces symptoms of a mild attack of Measles. In all cases treated lasting immunity is produced. The vaccine is now being prepared and tried out in this country. What is required is an effective agent which can be given without any after effects and which will give life long immunity. If measles can be eliminated by vaccination it will confer immeasurable benefits and relief from a disease which causes much suffering, many deaths, numerous complications and great dislocation in the home and school life of the child.

It is satisfactory to note that there has been no notification of a case of Tuberculosis and indeed no deaths from this disease for the past 2 years. Vaccination against Tuberculosis has been going on steadily in the schools for the past 8 years and there is no doubt that this is a most valuable procedure. There are many factors which contribute to the decline in the incidence of Tuberculosis but most important are, the prevention of overcrowding in insanitary houses, the rise in the standard of living so that people are adequately and satisfactorily fed, the availability of prompt medical attention should the need arise, the preventive methods of vaccination and Mass Radiography and finally within recent years the discovery of a whole series of drugs which act specifically on the organism of Tuberculosis. The results of all these are that Tuberculosis when detected quite quickly can be rendered non-infectious and very often be treated satisfactorily at home. It is rare these days to have to undertake the extensive surgical operations which were prevalent a short few years ago.

I cannot close my introduction to this report without expressing my disappointment that so little progress has been made in the year under review in connection with the provision of a new Clinic. The need for this is urgent and the lack of adequate accommodation interferes seriously with the facilities which should be made available particularly to the mothers and children.

Once again I wish to thank your Clerk Mr. R. Heap for the help and guidance he always gives me in the furtherance of my duties. I also wish to thank our new Engineer Surveyor and Public Health Inspector Mr. A. Jamieson and particularly for helping me to compile this report.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

L. RICH.

Medical Officer of Health.

The figures in brackets throughout this report are for 1959.

=====



STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Estimated population	7760	(7290)
----------------------	-----	-----	------	--------

Births

		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Live births	{ Legitimate	115	(127)	58 (74) 57 (53)
	{ Illegitimate	4	(2)	2 (1) 2 (1)
Still births	{ Legitimate	6	(1)	3 (1) 3 (-)
	{ Illegitimate	-	(-)	- (-) - (-)
Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated average population mid. 1960	13.1 (15.3)			
Live birth rate for England & Wales per 1,000 of the population	17.1 (16.5)			
Still birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	48 (7.6)			
Still birth rate for England & Wales per 1,000 total (live & still) births	19.7 (21)			
Still birth rate per 1,000 total population	.77 (.13)			
Still birth rate for England & Wales per 1,000 total population	.34 (.35)			

Infantile Mortality

The total number of deaths is shown as follows:-

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	2 { 3 }	- { 2 }	2 { 1 }
Illegitimate	- { - }	- { - }	- { - }

Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births 16.8 (23.2)
 Infantile mortality rate for England and Wales 21.7 (22.2)
 Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 17.3 (23.6)
 Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 0 (0)

Deaths

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Deaths, all ages	58 (83)	31 (39)	27 (44)

Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population 10.5 (15)
 Death rate for England & Wales per 1,000 of the population 11.5 (11.6)

The following table shows the deaths from all causes within the district during the past year:-

Cause	Total	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	3	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast	3	-	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	-	1
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	4	2	2
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	7	4
Coronary disease, angina	5	3	2
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	-
Other heart diseases	6	4	2
Other circulatory disease	5	2	3
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	1
Bronchitis	4	3	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	-	1
Other defined and ill defined diseases	5	2	3
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
All other accidents	2	1	1
Suicide	1	-	1
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
Total	58	31	27

Deaths from Puerperal and Maternal causes:-

	<u>No. of Deaths</u>	
Puerperal Sepsis	0	(0)
Other Maternal causes	0	(0)
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	0	(0)

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICE FOR

THE AREA

Care of Mothers and Young Children

Health Visitor in Charge - Miss E.G. Smith, 15, Centre Court,
Alsager, Tel. Alsager 628.

The table below will give some indication of the numbers attending at the Clinic.

Statistics

	New Cases			Total Attendances			No. of Clinics held	Cases seen by Dr.	Average per clinic seen by Dr.
	0-1	1-2	2-5	0-1	1-2	2-5			
Infant Welfare Clinic	124 (119)	- (-)	- (-)	1215 (1208)	432 (280)	302 (245)	48 (48)	251 (229)	5.2 (4.7)

Special Clinics for under 5

	New Cases	Total Attendances	No. of Clinics held	Average per clinic
Ophthalmic Clinic	5 (8)	17 (29)	22 (23)	.8 (1.2)
E.N.T. Clinic	4 (7)	4 (8)	5 (10)	.8 (.8)

Special Clinics for School Children

	New Cases	Total Attendances	No. of Clinics held	Average per clinic
Ophthalmic Clinic	38 (40)	253 (253)	22 (23)	11.5 (11)
E.N.T. Clinic	25 (51)	43 (72)	5 (10)	8.6 (72)

Preparation Class

	New Cases	Total Attendances	No. of Clinics held	Average per clinic
Preparation Class	70 (48)	355 (215)	52 (30)	6.8 (7.1)

We are particularly well supported in Alsager by the bands of voluntary helpers who assist both in the Clinic and with the Welfare Foods. Without them we should be greatly handicapped and they help to produce that family atmosphere which is so essential in the work of the Infant Welfare Centre.

Welfare Foods Sold - 1960

Distribution Centre	Nat. Dried Milk		A & D Tablets	Cod Liver Oil	Orange Juice
	Full Cream	Half Cream			
Welfare Centre	208 (291)	2 (-)	- (-)	146 (141)	1549 (1167)
Lawton Rd. (W.V.S.)	842 (1165)	1 (-)	453 (487)	282 (313)	2545 (2874)

Midwifery

Mrs. E. L. Pcdley, 6, Audley Road, Alsager. Tel. Alsager 583

It is particularly satisfactory to note too that once again a year has been achieved without a maternal death.

We have developed over the last few years regular Preparation Classes for expectant mothers. These involve health education sessions together with instructions on relaxation. Owing to the extremely limited space available for doing this the classes have to be split up, some taking place in the evening. Despite the inconvenience to the mothers they are regularly well attended and much appreciated.

Births 1960

Hospital		Home		Private N. Home	
Live	Still	Live	Still	Live	Still
94 (99)	6 (1)	28 (28)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

Home Nursing

The District Nurse for Alsager is - Mrs. E. Weatherall
27, Cresswellshawe Road,
Alsager. Tel. Alsager 67.

The Home Nurse works under the direction of the family doctor and looks after patients in their own homes. Because of this many cases who otherwise would have to be admitted to hospital are dealt with at home. This work helps considerably in reducing the strain on the hospitals. Once again it is with pleasure that I have to report that no single complaint was received during the year.

Vaccination and Immunisation

The year was marked by further development in the campaign against Poliomyelitis.

Statistics

Diphtheria Immunisation

Pre-school children	6	(6)
School children	2	{1}
	8	(7)
Reinforcing Injections	55	(20)

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Pre-school children	6	(10)
School children	-	{-}
	6	(10)

Combined Immunisation (Diphtheria Whooping Cough and Tetanus)

Pre-school children	137	(114)
School children	6	(-)
	143	(114)

Primary Vaccination

Pre-school children	91	(76)
School children	6	(4)
Adults	6	(12)
	103	(92)

Re-Vaccination

Pre-school children	-	(-)
School children	6	{1}
Adults	13	(16)
	19	(17)

Ambulance and Sitting Case Car Transport

As can be seen from the figures below the ambulance is very busily engaged and a satisfactory service is being maintained.

Ambulance Figures - 1960

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Mileages	1921 (1521)	1734 (1541)	1852 (1696)	1440 (2077)	1700 (2064)	1703 (1787)	1625 (2026)	1520 (1574)	1804 (1667)	1728 (2020)	2065 (1674)	1669 (1646)
Journeys	70 (55)	66 (59)	72 (62)	59 (79)	64 (79)	67 (72)	57 (71)	57 (64)	67 (69)	56 (76)	72 (65)	54 (65)
Patients	274 (156)	277 (165)	298 (249)	222 (340)	257 (313)	256 (319)	271 (255)	256 (240)	278 (275)	242 (285)	313 (208)	248 (200)

Domestic Help Service

Statistics relating to the Home Help Service provided during 1960 are as follows:-

Home Helps employed during 1960

Full time	-	(-)
Temporary	16	{17}
Casual	5	{8}
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	21	(25)

Home Helps employed at 31st. December, 1960.

Full time	-	(-)
Temporary	11	{8}
Casual	1	{-}
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12	(8)

Applications received during 1960

Confinement	2	{1}
Sickness	9	{7}
Tuberculosis	-	{-}
Aged and Infirm	6	{6}
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	17	(14)

Cases attended during 1960

Confinement	-	{1}
Sickness	12	{7}
Tuberculosis	-	{-}
Aged and Infirm	11	(14)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	23	(22)

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1960

Disease	Age Distribution											Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
	Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-15	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over			
Measles	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	4	-	1
Whooping Cough	1	1	2	1	-	8	1	-	-	-	-	14	-	-

Tuberculosis

For comparative purposes I have recorded the notifications of Tuberculosis during 1960 in conjunction with the notifications of this disease received each year since 1951.

Notifications - 1951 to 1960

	1951		1952		1953		1954		1955		1956		1957		1958		1959		1960	
	P	NP																		
MALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1 - 5																				
5 - 15																				
15 - 25																				
25 - 35																				
35 - 45																				
45 - 55																				
55 - 65																				
65 and over																				
Total	1	-	5	5	2	-	2	-	3	-	4	2	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
FEMALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1 - 5																				
5 - 15																				
15 - 25			1																	
25 - 35																				
35 - 45																				
45 - 55																				
55 - 65																				
65 and over																				
Total																				

Deaths - 1951 to 1960

	1951		1952		1953		1954		1955		1956		1957		1958		1959		1960	
	P	NP																		
MALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1 - 5																				
5 - 15																				
15 - 25																				
25 - 35																				
35 - 45																				
45 - 55																				
55 - 65																				
65 and over																				
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FEMALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1 - 5																				
5 - 15																				
15 - 25																				
25 - 35																				
35 - 45																				
45 - 55																				
55 - 65																				
65 and over																				
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Cases on the Tuberculosis Register at 31st. December, 1960 were as follows.

	Up to 1 yr.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65 & over	Total
Male Pulmonary	-	-	-	1	4	3	3	-	-	15
Female Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	3
Male Non- Pulmonary	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	4
Female Non- Pulmonary	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	3

The following sections of this report cover the work of the Public Health Inspector's Department, and have been compiled by Mr. A. Jamieson, the Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

I have pleasure in presenting my report on the Sanitary Circumstances of the district for the first time, having taken up this appointment at the end of September 1960, and at the onset I wish to express my appreciation for the kindness and assistance extended to me by Dr. L. Rich, Mr. Heap Clerk of the Council, and other officials and members of the Council of this area, without whose help it would not have been possible to carry on the smooth running of the Public Health Department during the transitional period.

Water Supply

Water is supplied by the Mid & South East Cheshire Water Board. Both the quantity and quality are good.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The two sewage works maintained by the Council are situated at Day Green and Longview. The Day Green works are old and are extensively overloaded, and has been the subject, together with overloading of sewers throughout the district, of a report by Consultant Engineers namely Messrs. W.H. Radford & Sons, 57, Goldsmith Street, Nottingham. This position is being aggravated due to the increase in population which has, within the last 10 years increased by 39%.

The Council have appreciated this serious problem and in 1959 received a report from the Consultants, this however, due to the above mentioned increase in population has now been subject to a further meeting and the Consultants propose to reconsider their suggestions in the light of the different circumstances. The Council have therefore instructed Messrs. Radford that they proceed with all urgency in presenting the necessary amended report and also to submit after approval by the Council the necessary information to the appropriate Ministry.

Some assistance in preventing flooding of the district has been obtained due to the Cheshire County Council laying a surface water drain in Crewe Road, which greatly prevented properties in that area from being flooded during heavy rain.

The Close Lane area of the district, the sewerage is treated at sewage works situated at the Royal Ordnance Factory and is satisfactory.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

During the latter part of the year the method of collection of House refuse was altered from that of the skip to kerb side collection. This resulted in a reduction from 7 men to 5 men and also reduced the time of collection from 10 or 11 days to slightly over 7.

This has been achieved by the operation of a bonus system in conjunction with a small amount of overtime working. The system now in operation appears to be working satisfactorily. Household refuse is disposed of by tipping in which a certain amount of control is exercised.

Housing

There does not appear in this district any need during the present time for Council house building. The number of persons on the waiting list is 130. The Council have under consideration however, the erection of 12 bungalows to accommodate the aged and also an extension to the Brook Villa scheme which is run in conjunction with the W.V.S. This scheme it is hoped will house a further seven together with the warden.

Food and Drugs

Regular visits have been made to all food premises, and there appears to be a high standard of food hygiene observed by the traders. It has not been necessary to bring to the attention of the traders any matter under the food hygiene regulations.

Slaughterhouse Act

There are two slaughterhouses in the district at which all animals are slaughtered and inspected.

One of these has been extensively altered to comply with the necessary regulations and shows a high regard for cleanliness.

The second of the two will cease killing on the 31st December, 1961.

Carcasses and offals inspected and condemned in whole or in part are as set out below:-

	Cattle Excluding	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	271	67	6	1,505	281	-
Number inspected	271	67	6	1,505	281	-
<u>All diseases except</u> <u>Tuberculosis and</u> <u>Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	93	50	-	75	2	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	34.3	74.6	Nil	4.9	.701	Nil
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Disease	Weight - LBS			
	Beef	Veal	Mutton	Pork
Tuberculosis	263	-	-	273
Parasites and Cysts	1217	-	116	-
Angioma	72	-	-	-
Dropsy	-	-	-	-
Emaciation	-	-	-	-
Traumatism	-	-	-	-
Inflammation	-	-	-	-
Maribund	-	-	-	-
Immaturity	-	-	-	-
Actinomycosis	25	-	-	-
Pericarditis	-	-	-	4
Peritonitis	15	-	-	-
Pleurisy	-	-	-	5
Pneumonia	22	-	-	-
Septicaemia	-	-	-	-
Pyaemia	-	-	-	-
Sapraemia	-	-	-	-
Mammitis	-	-	-	-
Tumours	-	-	-	-
Fever	-	-	-	-
Decomposition	577	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	35	-	-	-
Abscesses	165	-	-	-
	2391	-	116	282

In addition to the above, three butchers shops sell meat which is not slaughtered within the district.

Summary of Visits

Made to Various Premises

Refuse Collection and Disposal	70
Sewerage and Drainage	50
Sewerage Works	60
Water Supply	-
Factories	20
Caravans	-
Food & Drugs	80
Infectious Diseases	17
Public Houses	5
Nuisances	45

Rodent Control

Small infestations have taken place in two parts of the district. These would appear to have originated from the sewers, and have been successfully treated.

Factories

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	8	17	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	-	-	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	6	14	-	-
Totals	14	33	-	-

